

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as shown below.

[00114] MDEA-BSA conjugate **36** was synthesized as described in copending, commonly assigned U.S. Serial No. [[____]] 10/622,254 filed contemporaneously herewith. A solution of 500 mg of bovine serum albumin (BSA) in 6.7 mL of 50 mM potassium phosphate (pH 7.5) was cooled in an ice-bath. To the solution was added 8.5 mL of DMSO dropwise, and the reaction mixture was maintained below room temperature. To the protein solution was added a solution of 12 mg (0.022 mmol) of N-(5-{2-[ethyl-(2,2,2-trifluoro-acetyl)-amino]-propyl}-benzo[1,3]dioxol-2-ylmethyl)-succinamic acid 2,5-dioxo-pyrrolidin-1-yl ester (compound **2L** in U.S. Serial No. [[____]] 10/622,254) in 1.5 mL of anhydrous DMF dropwise. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature 48 hours. The resulting conjugate was placed in a dialysis tube (10,000 MW cut-off) and was dialyzed in 1 L of 70% DMSO in 50 mM potassium phosphate (pH 7.5, 3 changes, at least 3 hours each), 1 L of 50% DMSO in 50 mM potassium phosphate (at least 3 hours), 1 L of 30% DMSO in 50 mM potassium phosphate (at least 3 hours), 1 L of 10% DMSO in 50 mM potassium phosphate (at least 3 hours) at room temperature. The trifluoroacetamido group of the conjugate was deprotected by dialysis of the resulting conjugate against 10% ammonium hydroxide for 3 days (1 L each for approximately 24 hours each), followed by 6 changes with 50 mM potassium phosphate (pH 7.5) at 4°C (1 L each). The protein concentration was determined to be 7.12 mg/mL using BioRad Coomassie blue protein assay (Bradford, M., *Anal. Biochem.* 72:248,1976). A total of 45 mL of the conjugate was obtained.